(c) and (d) Gas discoveries of Ravva Satellite field and Laxmi are under development. Ravva Satellite Gas development is expected to be completed by the end of 2001 and Laxmi Phase-I development is expected to be completed by the first quarter of 2002. A plateau gas production rate of 0.9 MMSCMD for six years is expected from Ravva Satellite Gas. A plateau gas production rate of 2.4 MMSCMD for five years is exepcted from Laxmi field.

Oil and Gas discoveries of Ambe, Gouri, Parvati and Annapurna need to be appraised further for their potential and economic viability. Development plans for these discoveries will depend upon the result of appraisal.

Dealer Selection Boards in Karnataka

2563. SHRI K.C. KONDAIAH: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Dealer Selection Boards formed in Karnataka to expedite the retail outlets, LPG connections and kerosene dealership;

(b) the number of new retail outlets, kerosene dealership and LPG distributorship allotted during 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 in Karnataka; and

(c) the name of places where they are being allotted?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) Two Dealer Selection Boards (DSBs), *viz.*, DSB, Bangalore and DSB, Belgaum, have been constituted for the State of Karnataka.

(b) and (c) 26 retail outlet dealerships, 44 LPG distributorships and 4 SKO-LDO dealerships were allotted at various locations in the State of Karnataka in 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 (April to June, 2001).

Offer of French Company for Equity in Petronet LNG Ltd.

2564. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a French company has offered to invest 20 million dollar to pick up a 10 per cent equity in Petronet LNG Ltd., a consortium of India's leading public sector undertakings for development of liquified natural gas import and storage terminals;

(b) if so, the name of the company and the broad features of its operation in India;

(c) whether any agreement has been signed with the said firm; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. M/s Gaz de France International, a national company of France, which is importing Liquified Natural Gas (LNG) in Europe and operating LNG terminals for a long period, has obtained the approval of Foreign Investment Public Board (FIPB) for equity participation upto 50 per cent in the paid up share capital of Petronet LNG Ltd. (PLL), a joint venture promoted by Indian Oil Corporation, Gas Authority of India Ltd., Oil and Natural Gas Corporation and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. for developing, importation and transportation projects of LNG at Dahej (Gujarat) and Kochi (Kerala). GDF has invested a sum of US$38 million approximately acquiring 10 per cent equity share in PLL and signed an agreement in this behalf with the promoter oil companies of PLL on June 02, 2001 to undertake various activities for establishment of LNG terminals with re-gasification facilities of 5.0 million tonnes per annum (MTPA) capacity at Dahej and 2.5 MTPA capacity at Kochi.

Sale of Spurious Diesel

2565. SHRI RAJEEV SHUKLA: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of spurious diesel rackets have been unearthed during the last one year;

(b) whether they have been found operating in connivance with the authorised outlets of the various public undertakings under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against the outlets; and

(d) the steps taken to prevent sale of spurious diesel?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI SANTOSH GANGWAR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.